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IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-sixth year

Letter dated 8 May 1991 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Qatar to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the text of the press communiqué issued on 5 May 1991 by the Ministerial Council of the Gulf Cooperation Council concerning the situation in the region following the Gulf War.

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Nassir Abdelaziz AL-NASSER
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

ANNEX

Press communiqué

The Ministerial Council held its fifteenth extraordinary session on Sunday, 21 Shawwal A.H. 1411, corresponding to 5 May A.D. 1991 at Kuwait City, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Mubarak Bin Ali al-Khatir, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Qatar, and with all its members present:

His Highness Sheikh Hamdan Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates;

His Excellency Sheikh Mohammed Bin Mubarak Al Khalifa, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Bahrain;

His Royal Highness Prince Saud al-Faisal, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia;

His Excellency Mr. Yousef Bin Alawi Bin Abdullah, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman;

His Excellency Sheikh Salim al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait.

From the land of free and liberated Kuwait, the Ministerial Council addressed, with great pride, its most sincere congratulations and an invocation of God's blessing to the leadership and people of Kuwait on the land's being purged of the forces of the treacherous, criminal and destructive regime and on the return of legitimacy to Kuwait, under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait, and by the grace of God, who repelled the cunning of the aggressor and inspired the leaders of the States of the Gulf Cooperation Council with the blessing of wisdom and firm and swift action, supported by strength of faith and higher humanitarian values and principles. It expressed its admiration of the solidarity and cohesion shown by the citizens of the States of the Council and the sacrifices which they made and commended the support of fraternal and friendly States which joined with the States of the Gulf Cooperation Council in an unprecedented international coalition supported by United Nations resolutions and international legitimacy.

The Council commends the important directives formulated by His Highness Sheikh Jaber al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, Amir of Kuwait, at the meeting that the members of the Ministerial Council were honoured to have with His Highness this morning, and it appreciates these directives, which will strengthen the links of destiny between the States of the Council and his people and promote the cause of the Council in such a way as to ensure the achievement of its objectives and the preservation of security and stability in the region.

The Council also commends the outstanding role played by His Excellency Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Jaber al-Sabah, former Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State of Kuwait in the work of the Gulf Cooperation Council, his distinguished part in the strengthening of cohesion and bonds between the States of the Council, his great efforts in joint Arab endeavour and his generosity at the international level. The Council, which takes pride in this broad human humanitarian generosity, wishes Sheikh Sabah al-Ahmad continued generosity and munificence in whatever position he may choose. It also welcomes His Excellency Sheikh Salim al-Sabah, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, and expresses its confidence that he will be the best of successors to the best of predecessors, wishing him every success.

The Council reviewed the most recent developments and new situations in the Gulf region, recalling the decisions of the Supreme Council at its eleventh session in Doha, which stress unity and cohesion in security matters between the States of the region and emphasize the principle of collective defence for the States of the Council. The Council stresses its continued support for the State of Kuwait.

The Ministerial Council welcomes the beginning of the deployment of United Nations observer forces in the demilitarized zone between Kuwait and Iraq in implementation of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) in order to prevent frontier violations and observe any acts of aggression.

The Ministerial Council, appalled by what it has witnessed of the effects of deliberate destruction and sabotage of civilian phenomena in Kuwait by the forces of the odious occupation, the large-scale organized looting of public and private property of the people and residents of Kuwait committed by those forces, the burning and destruction of Kuwaiti oil wells and installations by the forces of evil and the heinous crimes against the environment and nature committed by sinful hands, renews its condemnation of those evil acts committed by the Iraqi regime in Kuwait and reaffirms the following:

The Ministerial Council:

Stresses the necessity of the immediate implementation of Security Council resolutions 686 (1991) and 687 (1991);

Renews its demand that the Iraqi authorities immediately release all hostages and detainees, Kuwaiti and other;

Once again places on Iraq full responsibility for the human and material damage suffered by Kuwait and reiterates its demand that Iraq pay compensation for those losses in accordance with Security Council resolutions 674 (1991), 686 (1991) and 687 (1991) without any procrastination or delay;

Reaffirms the necessity of continuing the sanctions imposed on Iraq under resolutions 661 (1991), 665 (1991), 670 (1991), 686 (1991) and 687 (1991) until Iraq releases all Kuwaiti detainees held by it and shows de facto

compliance with legitimate international resolutions concerning the payment of compensation and the return of stolen articles to Kuwait;

Stresses the necessity of continuing the above-mentioned sanctions until Iraq shows de facto compliance in practice with the provisions of Security Council resolution 687 (1991) concerning the removal of all weapons of mass destruction and accepts the provisions of that resolution concerning on-site inspection to verify its compliance and agrees unconditionally not to possess or produce nuclear weapons;

Reaffirms the necessity of removing all weapons of mass destruction from the Middle East region as a whole.

The Council expresses its satisfaction that security and peace have returned to all Kuwaiti territory and that the people of Kuwait have begun to remove the legacy and traces of aggression and to work for the reconstruction of their fatherland. It hopes that the international community, the United Nations, the specialized agencies and concerned international institutions will take all appropriate steps to contribute to the elimination of the effects of environmental pollution resulting from the burning of oil wells through effective participation in the extinguishing of the fires lit in Kuwaiti oilfields by the Iraqi regime, in accordance with Security Council resolution 686 (1991).

The Council expresses its deep regret with regard to the most repugnant forms of suffering experienced by the Iraqi people as a result of the arbitrary policy of the Iraqi leadership and affirms in this regard its support for the Iraqi people in its trial and its full concern for Iraqi territorial integrity.

The Council is following with extreme interest and deep concern the efforts being made by the United States of America to arrive at a just and comprehensive solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the question of Palestine on the basis of Security Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 338 (1973). It stresses its support for those constructive peace efforts and its support for the proposal to convene a peace conference at an early date, inasmuch as the present time is the best time, now that appropriate circumstances are at hand for action to put an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict and achieve a just and comprehensive solution that would restore to the people of Palestine its legitimate rights within the framework of the international order based on cooperation and confirmation of the will to peace and stability in the world and the elimination of causes of tension and disruption.

The Ministerial Council notes with entire satisfaction the positive developments in fraternal Lebanon and the successes registered by the Lebanese Government in extending its authority over Lebanese territory. It reaffirms the support of the States of the Gulf Cooperation Council for the Taif Agreement, calls for the full and unconditional implementation of Security

Council resolution 425 (1978) and the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon without procrastination or delay, draws attention to the resolution of the Arab Summit calling for the establishment of a fund to support Lebanon and calls upon the international community to contribute to it.

DONE at Kuwait City on 21 Shawwal A.H. 1411, corresponding to 5 May A.D. 1991.